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FOR SHEER
DELIGHT



VOL. VII, NO. 227

KABUL, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1968 (JADI 3, 1347 S.H.)

PRICE AFS. 4

THE KABUL TIMES

ROAMER

...the swiss quality watch of
worldwide reputation

APOLLO 8 COMMENCES FIRST OF 10 PLANNED XMAS LUNAR ORBITS

HUSTON SPACE CENTRE, Dec. 24 (AP).—The three American astronauts began their scheduled 10 orbits of the moon this afternoon at 2:30 as their command module swept behind the back-side of the moon. Radio contact with the American space centre was lost for 20 minutes as the Apollo 8 circled the moon but was reestablished as soon as their ship completed its first orbit and set out for its second.

Pictures of the earth sent back from Apollo-8 at a distance of 325,000 kms. from the earth.

The earth showed as a big, half-lit blob of light at first. Then cloud covered details of the surface became visible.

"What you are seeing is the western hemisphere," Air Force Col. Frank Borman said.

"The colours are all sort of a royal blue," Borman said. "The clouds are bright white....the land areas generally are brownish, light brownish texture."

The north pole appeared at the lower left of the globe, as the camera kept moving and sending the image of the earth shifting around the screen.

It was a spectacular view, half

Lunar Lingo: apocynthion, Pericyynthion

SPACE CENTRE, Houston, Dec. 24, (AP).—Apollo 8's around-the-moon journey Tuesday spotlights new space-age terms. Here is a glossary of lunar lingo expected to be heard in spaceship-to-earth conversations:

Apocynthion: point at which an object in lunar orbit launched from a body other than the moon. Such as earth-is farthest from the moon's surface.

Cislunar space: area of space between earth and the moon.

Impact craters: moon craters created by meteor hits.

Penumbra: semi-dark portion of a shadow in which light is partly cut off, yet still partly visible.

Pericynthion: point at which an object in lunar orbit—launched from a body other than the moon, such as earth—is nearest the moon's surface. Opposition of apocynthion.

Rills: trench-like fault zones on the lunar surface.

Selenographic: adjective meaning related to physical geography of the moon.

Selenocentric: adjective referring to orbit having moon as center.

Umbra: darkest part of a shadow in which light is completely absent.

Gromyko confers with Jordanian envoy in Cairo

CAIRO, Dec. 24, (AFP).—Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko talked with Jordan ambassador Adib El Amry here for an hour yesterday on the Middle East crisis.

El Amry said after the meeting that he was "satisfied" with cooperation between the Soviet Union and Arab countries.

He also said he hoped to see the great powers—notably the United States—make efforts to end the crisis within the framework of the United Nations Security Council resolution of November, 1967.

In Cairo the mass circulation newspaper Al Akhbar said international and Arab contacts would be made over the next few days at "a high level."

The newspaper said these contacts would be aimed at putting an end to Israeli expansion.

In Jerusalem the Israeli information minister told students' meeting that Gromyko was probably working out a new strategy aiming to make Israel evacuate its occupied territories without assuring it the right to peace or freedom for Israeli ships to pass through the Suez Canal.

The Israeli minister said the possibility of a joint Soviet Union-United States front "could not be ruled out."

In Beirut, the Lebanese newspaper Al Jarida reported that Iraq had offered to place troops in Jordan under the command of the Jordanian army headquarters.

It said the offer came from Iraqi Defence Minister Gen. Hardan al Takriti during a recent visit to Amman. The Iraqi troops would be placed in the Jordanian front lines, the paper said.

of the earth in shadow, bathed in sunlight. The shadow fell just west of Hawaii. The east coast of the United States was obscured by clouds.

Earlier yesterday Borman said that he was looking at the earth and could see a spectacular long thin band of clouds. Looks like it may be a jet stream. It's absolutely spectacular, going almost halfway around the earth.

The astronauts ignored suggestions that they turn the camera on the moon, apparently reserving that for today when they will be seeing the lunar surface from a height of only 111 kilometres.

Only hours from their Christmas Eve date today with the moon, the Apollo 8 astronauts fired small rockets last night for a minute course correction, then rested while they swept toward the moon.

Borman, Navy Capt. James A. Lovell Jr., and Air Force Maj. William A. Anders triggered the small reaction control thrusters for 12 seconds to slow their speed by less than two miles an hour.

The short burn placed the spacecraft on an path leading to within 70 statute miles of the back side of the moon at 4:59 a.m.

In another course correction Christmas Eve, the crew will fire the large service propulsion rocket of the space craft to bring them into lunar orbit about 133 by 315 km.

After the television portrait of the earth it flashed past "equigraviphore," the invisible point in space where the Apollo craft was wrenched from the earth gravitational dominance by the moon.

Once past this zone, the moon's gravity took hold and increased Apollo's speed. It gradually accelerated from 3,540 to 9,338 km. an hour when the astronauts fired their spaceship engine to enter lunar orbit at 4:59 a.m. Tuesday (0959 GMT).

The moon began tugging at the spaceship when it was 325,090 kms. from earth and 62,603 km. from the moon.

USSR scientist wishes Apollo success but notes dangers

MOSCOW, Dec. 24, (Tass).—of Soviet Scientist, Academician G. Petrov comments yesterday in Pravda on the flight of the U.S. spaceship Apollo-8 with three astronauts on board.

He writes that people all over the globe closely follow the flight. The scientist writes that the successful completion of the flight will be another contribution to space exploration.

He writes it should be hoped that the flight is a success. The academician pays tribute to the courage of astronauts Borman, Lovell, and Anders and wishes them successful fulfilment of the programme of their flight.

Academician G. Petrov, director of the Institute of Space Explorations of the USSR Academy

Sciences writes that the new feature in the experiment is that the spaceship will get away from the earth to a considerable distance. It will take the route close to that of the Soviet space station "Zond-5" and "Zond-6".

He points out that the specific feature of the U.S. Apollo system is the fact that the man, evidently, plays the main role in operating the ships.

The author writes that Soviet scientists and designers are working on such systems in which the controlling of the ship's flight by the man is completely duplicated by automatic devices which can bring a ship back to earth and land it even if Cosmonauts lose completely the ability to

(Continued on page 4)

Polytechnic project completed

KABUL, Dec. 24, (Bakhtar).—Construction of Kabul Polytechnic, a new addition to Kabul University, has been completed. The complex includes classrooms, laboratories and five dormitory buildings for 1200 students. There are also residential quarters for the faculty.

Project chief Abdul Rahim Chinzai said the buildings and installations cost Af. 261 million and rubles 6.3 millions. Schools for construction, electricity, geological survey, and petroleum prospecting make up the Polytechnic. Road and dam construction and mineral exploitation are also taught.

The classroom building which is built in three stories includes 78 rooms. Two are lecture halls, for 200 students. Another three halls seat 100 students each.

The gymnasium has an area of

(Continued on page 4)

The last building to be completed on the Polytechnic campus is a mosque. Although interior of the mosque and plastering of the outside still remains to be done. All other buildings on the campus are in use now.

Photo by Muqim, The Kabul Times

Photo by Muqim, The Kabul Times

Ky says Saigon will never recognise NLF

SAIGON, Dec. 24, (Reuters).—Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky said yesterday Saigon would deal with the problem of opposition groups, including the National Liberation Front, after North Vietnamese troops withdrew beyond the 17th parallel.

Speaking to reporters at Saigon airport on his return from the Paris peace talks the Vice President said, "If the North Vietnamese withdraw beyond the 17th parallel—the line dividing North and South Vietnam—the allied troops will pull out of South Vietnam."

"Then the common border between North and South Vietnam will be secured and controlled by international forces and we will have peace."

"And once peace comes we, as the elected sovereign government in South Vietnam will engage to solve all the problems of all opposition groups in the south," Vice President Ky said.

He added, "we will never recognise the Front as an entity but we admit that this a reality, which any elected government has to solve."

An FP despatch from Saigon said Vice President Ky's statement that the existence of the National Liberation Front was a "reality" caused surprise here and was regarded by diplomatic observers as deviating from the line followed by the South Vietnamese government so far.

However, in view of the late reception here of the text of General Ky's statement—made in an interview with the CBS in Paris before his scheduled return to Saigon—there has been no official reaction yet. It is not known whether General Ky consulted President Nguyen Van Thieu before making his statement.

General Thieu had never ruled out the possibility of holding talks with NLF members but not within the same context as General Ky did. When General Ky speaks of "direct contacts" with the NLF to step up the restoration of peace in Vietnam he ap-

pears to follow a different line from that of other government members.

The government's position had always been that meetings with the NLF implied either that Viet Cong should lay down its arms or that contacts were to be established on an individual basis to discuss the return of NLF members to the "national cause".

Official American sources meanwhile said that there was "complete understanding between the Americans and the South Vietnamese on the conduct of peace negotiations. They said the stability of the present South Vietnamese government and the favourable military situation of the 'allied forces' precluded any Viet Cong success if they should attempt a new offensive against Saigon, as was rumored earlier this month."

Assembly approves Russian as working language

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 24, (AP).—The General Assembly Saturday approved the introduction of Russian as a working language of the assembly, along with English, French and Spanish.

The vote was 81 in favour, 17 against with 24 abstentions. The United States and the Britain were among the western powers opposing the move.

Earlier the United States backed a New Zealand proposal calling for the issue to be decided by a two-thirds vote rather than a simple majority. The New Zealand motion was roundly defeated 36-53, with 33 abstentions.

The resolutions also suggested it "desirable" that Russian and Spanish be considered among the working languages of the Security Council. But this requires a decision of the Council.

HM returns to Kabul from Jalalabad

KABUL, Dec. 24, (Bakhtar).—His Majesty the King returned to Kabul last night after spending the Eid holidays in Jalalabad.

His Majesty the King left Kabul for Nangarhar last week. During his stay there he received Nangarhar dignitaries and resident Pashtonistans.

He also visited some installations of the Nangarhar Development Project. In Darunta His Majesty inspected the fish propagation programme.

The project there started two years ago. Now there some 400,000 fish each weighing from one to two kilograms.

U.S. 'apologises' to North Korea to free sailors

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24, (AFP).—The following is the complete text of the statement signed Monday by General Gilbert H. Woodward to obtain the release of the Pueblo crew:

"The government of the United States of America, acknowledging the validity of the confessions of the crew of the U.S. Pueblo and the documents of the evidence produced by the representatives of the government of the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea to the effect that the ship, which was seized by the self-defence measures of the naval vessels of the Korean Peoples' Army in the territorial waters of the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea on January 23rd 1968, had illegally intruded into the territorial waters of the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea."

"Shoulders full responsibility and solemnly apologises for the grave acts of espionage committed by the U.S. ship against the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea after having intruded into the territorial waters of the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea."

"And gives firm assurances no U.S. ship will intrude again in the future into the territorial waters of the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea."

The statement continued: "Meanwhile the government of the United States of America earnestly requests the government of the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea to deal leniently with the former crew members of the U.S. Pueblo confiscated by the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea, taking into consideration that these crew members have confessed honestly to their crimes and petitioned the government of the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea for leniency."

"Simultaneously with the signing of this document, the undersigned acknowledges receipt of 82 former crew members of the Pueblo and one corpse."

On behalf of the government of the United States of America"

President Boumedienne to visit Morocco next month

ALGIERS, Dec. 24, (DPA).—Algerian President Houari Boumedienne will pay a visit to Rabat on January 11 at the invitation of Moroccan King Hassan.

It was announced here yesterday. This coming event is something that would have been inconceivable not long ago on both sides of the desert border, which for five years has been the subject of violent Algerian-Moroccan quarrels.

The president of the Algerian Revolutionary Council is suddenly showing himself to be cautiously pragmatic and a diplomat.

Before deciding on the visit Boumedienne had to overcome more obstacles than just the border conflict, to which even the mediation committee of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) was unable to find a solution.

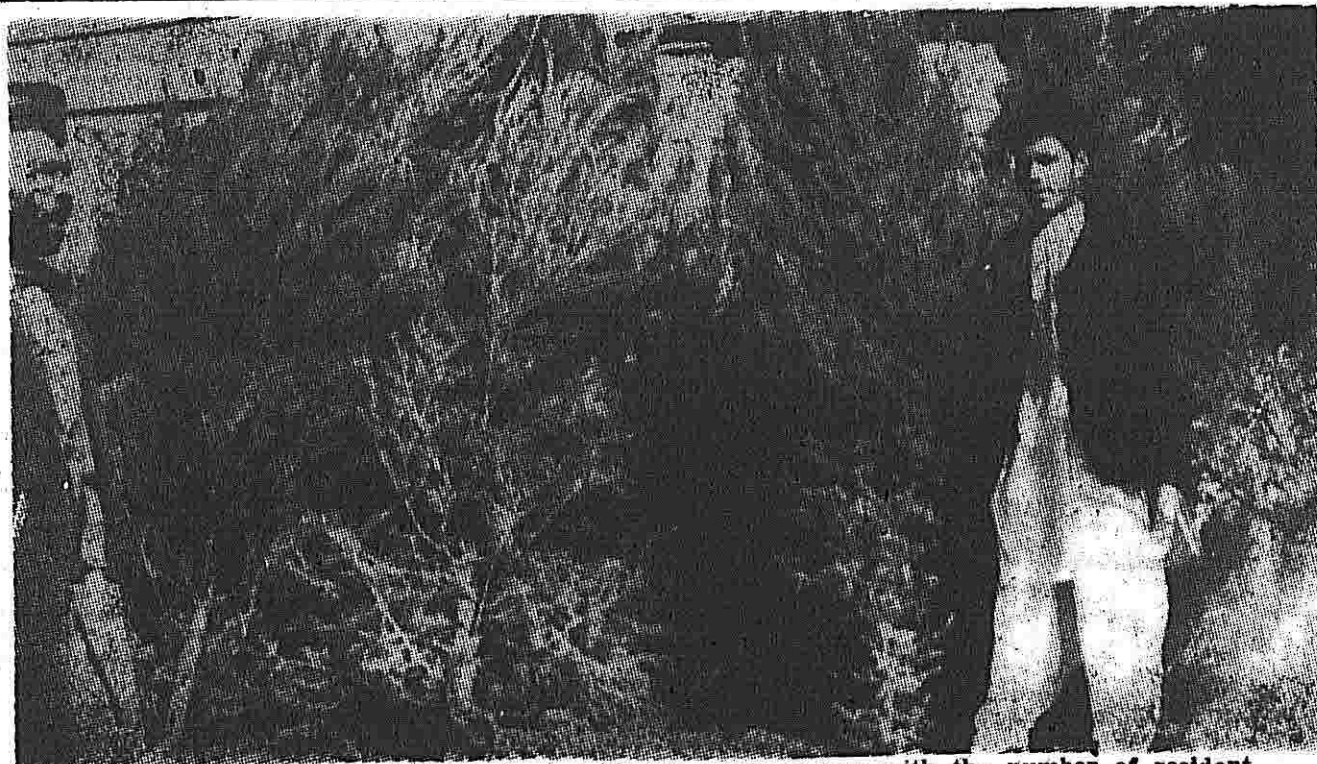
Even the gap between the Algerian Republics Socialists and the governing system of the nei-

ghbouring feudal ruler, which seemed unbridgeable only a short while ago, no longer appears to be such an abyss.

But hints about an Algiers-Rabat rapprochement were dropped in September, when King Hassan attended the OAU summit conference in Algeria's Palace of Nations, and met Boumedienne more frequently than had been expected.

Subsequently Boumedienne sent one of his closest colleagues, Finance and Planning Minister Cherif Belkacem, on a lightning six-hour visit to the Moroccan court, which was seen as a "happy augury" for the future.

At the end of last month the president told his 12 million compatriots that the "brotherly countries of the Maghreb are condemned to cooperation" and a "future visit would serve the aim of creating a certain degree of stability in order to weaken the danger of foreign infiltration."



Selling Christmas trees is becoming a sizable business now with the number of resident Europeans and Americans in Kabul reaching a few thousands. Only a few years ago if some wanted a Christmas tree the family had to know someone in Paghman to acquire one.

Photo by Muqim, The Kabul Times



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Food For Thought

Idleness and lack of occupation are the best things in the world to ruin the foolish.

Rio Chrysostom

Apollo 8 firsts

The Apollo 8 space shot which is taking three Americans in orbit around the moon puts several firsts in the United States scorecard of space adventure. It has already made the three astronauts the first human beings to leave the earth's gravitational pull. They are also the first human beings to come under the gravitational pull of another heavenly body. The Apollo passengers will also be the first to circle the moon.

When they return to earth next Friday they will have the first colour photos of the moon. They will also be the first three human beings to have covered 480,000 miles in less than a week. The Apollo astronauts will be the first human beings to see the earth a big blue-green heavenly body from a distance of 230,000 miles in outer space.

While the prospect of so many firsts is, at most, certain, another type of firsts of an undesirable nature is also within the realm of possibility. They may be the first human beings to fall in love with the moon and continue to circle that heavenly body indefinitely. They may also be the first human beings to make a crash landing on the lunar surface.

They may even become the first human space wanderers. Although the rockets in the Apollo service and command modules are fully tested and the designers are certain that they will function flawlessly, last minute hitches may occur.

A slight mistake or malfunction of the retro

rocket which slows down the space craft in order to bring it in a 70 mile orbit of the moon can send the astronauts crashing to the lunar surface never to set foot on the terra firma again.

A similar malfunction of the retro-rockets which will be fired at the end of the tenth orbit around the moon in order to accelerate the space craft to the point that it can overcome the lunar gravitational force on their return journey to earth may fall and the astronauts will be kept in a permanent lunar orbit. Similarly a slight mistake or malfunction of the rockets on reentering the earth's atmosphere can send the astronauts wandering aimlessly in outer space perhaps in an orbit around the sun.

If the space craft hits the earth's atmosphere at an angle greater than 7 degrees the friction heat generated can be greater than design specifications and it will be burnt up.

Taking all these possibilities into consideration the Apollo 8 space shot can be termed the greatest adventure of the 20th century undertaken by man. We certainly hope that the astronauts will return safely to earth and the mission fulfilled without any mishaps.

While we are certain that the Apollo 8 mission when completed successfully will greatly contribute to the reservoir of human knowledge about outer space we also hope that the concept of space race would give way to space cooperation between the two space powers in order to economise on the vast resources that such a race demands.

HOME PRESS AT A GLANCE

Yesterday's *Isiah* carried the translation of an article from American sources on how to deal with the growing crisis arising from the population explosion and the consequent shortage of food supplies.

So long as there are doctors and physicians trying to safeguard human lives there should be other people engaged in seeing that they have enough to eat. Can this be done, asked the article?

Answering the question, it said although scientists are working on a host of projects such as producing artificial proteins, irrigating meat for long storage purposes and utilizing oily green leaves for eating purposes sea resources provide the best hope.

Already millions of people throughout the world are switching more and more towards sea food. It is quite possible, said the article, that fish will be bred in very the same way as herds of cattle and sheep in high seas and oceans.

It is easy and economical to produce a sort of fish flour which could be incorporated into the daily diet, said the article.

The article also stressed the need for increasing productivity of cultivable land and reclaiming new areas for agricultural purposes. This could be done through the use of chemical fertilisers, better irrigation, sowing and harvesting methods and cutting down wastages due to plant diseases and droughts, said the article.

The same issue of the paper carried a number of interesting letters to the editor, one signed Mainawar said people living in the suburbs of the city are suffering from several handicaps.

Outlining these the letter singled out two major ones. During the winter months the ice and snow loading of overhead electric wires often breaks the wires. A live wire on the ground is highly dangerous.

Last year, it said, two people were killed in Deh Khudaidad as a result of touching live wires on the ground. Mechanics who could repair the power lines are not readily available in the suburbs.

Another suburban problem, is the lack of price control measures. Shopkeepers charge any price they fancy on all the essential goods. These prices vary with the time of the day

and the person who shops. The letter called on the proper authorities to take note of these short comings and do the necessary.

Another letter signed Dawari said experience shows that people who build mud houses without any proper design are generally demolished after a few years only to be replaced by concrete houses.

This means a big wastage of funds and resources. The letter called on the municipality not to allow such constructions to come up in and around the city. All future buildings must be constructed in accordance with the specifications supplied by the corporation.

The same issue of the paper carried an editorial on winter and traf-

fic accidents. With the coming of winter the number of accidents on roads increase. This is mainly due to the fact that on the one hand the cars and vehicles are not properly equipped to meet the hazards of driving in winter and on the other some of the drivers are simply reckless.

Special tyres should be used in winter or else chains should be employed. It is important to have both lights working at nights and the break system working flawlessly, said the editorial.

It emphasised that the Traffic Department should announce and enforce the necessary precautions that every driver should take and see that the vehicle he drives is functioning properly.

World Press

An army of television, radio and newspaper correspondents report the journey of America's moon-bound Apollo eight spacecraft.

Live television coverage of the takeoff for the moon will be beamed throughout north America, and by satellite to Europe, Latin America and the Far East.

In Europe, the British broadcasting corporation will function as a pool for the European broadcasting union, feeding telecasts to 54 nations in 15 languages, including transmissions to the Soviet Union and Eastern European states.

Almost 1,000 representatives of the media are at the spaceport, including more than 100 from abroad, to report the greatest journey man has ever undertaken. Three-fourths of the world's peoples will be getting the coverage.

A spokesman for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration said "practically every major newspaper of the world is represented" in Cape Kennedy, and they are still checking in.

Television coverage will be beamed to Europe via an INTELSAT satellite and to the Pacific area by the U.S. applications technology satellite three.

Six telecasts by the astronauts, including two while orbiting the moon, Astronauts Frank Borman, James

Lovell and William Anders rocketed off from earth Saturday morning, circle the moon ten times on Christmas eve, and return to earth December 27.

The *New York Times* recently devoted an editorial to the problem of hijacking. It said:

Thirty-eight more Americans had an unexpected and unwelcome holiday in Havana last week as another airliner was hijacked, the fourth in two weeks and the 12th this year. As in other incidents, no one was injured and plane and passengers have been safely returned.

The only loss so far has been in inconvenience to passengers and expense to the airlines, which are billed heavily by the Cuban government for landing and fueling fees and for food and lodging provided for their passengers in Havana. To many, the unscheduled Cuban junkies have become a source of levity.

But hijacking is no joke. This continual armed seizure of crowded airliners in flight poses a constant threat of serious accident. One shot fired by a hijacking—often an unstable person—could puncture the skin of the pressurized cabin, causing an explosive release of pressure, and disaster. That's why the airlines have prudently ordered their pilots: "If you don't get the hijacker at the gate, take him where he wants to go."

UN personnel

Anwarzai urges long-term recruitment plan

Following is a statement on personnel questions, delivered by A. Anwarzai, representative of Afghanistan to the Fifth Committee of the 23rd session of the United Nations General Assembly, 10 December 1968.

My delegation would like to make some general observations on the personnel question, but before doing so we wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the Committee on Reorganisation of the Secretariat and extend our compliments to the Secretary-General on the presentation of his views.

We believe, in the light of this report, that certain aspects of the personnel question should be elaborated upon. The Committee of Seven has made extensive inquiries to find ways and means to ask qualified officials to serve this organisation.

Therefore, the recommendations of this committee are important and should be carefully taken into consideration. One of the suggestions which has the full support of my delegation is the idea of developing a long-term recruitment plan for the United Nations Secretariat.

The majority of the staff members now making up the Secretariat of the United Nations were recruited years ago and we believe that the advantage should be taken of their experience by the newly recruited staff members.

We are of the opinion that the present efforts undertaken in the search for talent on university campuses should be expanded. Undoubtedly, job training and mid-career refreshment courses will help to avoid deterioration in the efficiency of the staff.

My delegation has studied the Secretary-General's report on the composition of the Secretariat with keen interest and would like to pay its tribute to the Secretary-General on that detailed report.

In examining the report, we noted that changes taking place in the current year meet the recommendations made by the General Assembly regarding staff recruitment policy. We urge the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to achieve a better geographical distribution.

We reiterate that in recruitment preference should be given to the candidates from inadequately represented countries. We are aware that particular attention was directed towards the identification of qualified candidates from nationals of countries not yet represented.

Most of the non-represented countries are developing countries and nations which achieved their political independence only recently.

We further believe that officials from the developing countries, in their service in the United Nations, will benefit from training in diffe-

rent departments and thereby will be able to contribute to the building of their countries.

This opportunity for training should be provided on as wide a basis as possible. We noted, with satisfaction, from the Secretary-General's report that the proportion of fixed-term staff at the end of the current year will have reached 31.9 per cent.

Last year it stood at 30.6 per cent. We support any measure which will increase the number of fixed-term officials.

One should keep in mind that the main aim underlying resolution 1954 was a more equitable nationality distribution of the staff both between the geographical regions and within each region.

We hope that the Secretariat Departments concerned will further cooperate with the request submitted to it in recruiting more Afghan nationals.

The Delegation of Afghanistan is as it always has been, ready to continue its cooperation with the Secretariat.

In conclusion, my delegation would like to urge the strict adherence to the principle that due regard should be paid to the importance of recruiting the staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible.

French economy

Little people "buy more gold Napoleons"

By Ronald Koven

President Charles de Gaulle reached back into Julius Caesar's Commentaries on the Gallic wars to support his contention that the French are a difficult lot to govern, who are given to dividing into warring factions.

France is a "melancholy country," Gen. de Gaulle concluded. The general was reacting to the malaise which is the dominant note in and around the French government these days. The most striking thing about it is that the atmosphere of political anxiety becomes heavier and more explicit the closer one gets to the seat of power.

The malaise centres around the feeling that aside from Gen. de Gaulle's aging grip on the ship of state, no one is providing any alternative to Gaullism.

Gen. de Gaulle seemed to give his followers a great restorative electric shock with his decision November 23 to resist a devaluation of the franc, which everyone was convinced would be forced on him in humiliating circumstances.

Since then, however, the electric charge has gradually dissipated as people tried to estimate the government's chances of success in the battle to save the franc and carefully analysed the measures proposed to do the job.

As one of the 300 Gaullist deputies put it recently, Gen. de Gaulle has performed on the flying trapeze to save the regime, he has performed without a safety net and now he seems to be doing it without a trapeze. Gaullist faith in the general requires them to think he can do that successfully, too, but they cannot help feeling some doubt.

A leader of the Gaullist party's "law and order" faction, Deputy Alexandre Sanguinetti spoke of "the mounting perils" "anarchy" which the government was paying

which the government seems resigned to accept.

From left to right, the French press is full of complaints that the government is adrift and does not seem to have a clear set of policies. Although the malaise is concentrated in Paris political circles and the journalists who move in them, the French provinces share it.

Gen. de Gaulle's personal popularity has not fallen sharply in recent nationwide opinion polls. But the prime minister, part of whose function in the Gaullist system is to serve as a lightning rod for discontent, has dropped in popularity from 51 per cent in September to 43 per cent now.

Perhaps even more significantly, the provinces are buying gold Napoleons in large quantities. The coins the traditional refuge of little people who cannot afford gold bars, have almost reached \$14 each in recent days, close to the record set in the May-June crisis. At current Paris market prices for pure gold, their value would be under \$9 each.

Example after example is given of instances in which the government did not seem to know what it wanted. The most striking one before the decision not to devalue was the presentation to the assembly of an expansionary budget with a heavy deficit to prime the economic pump. At the eleventh hour the government changed the signals, calling for sharp cuts in official spending, more taxes and a balanced budget as soon as possible.

Afterward, Couve de Murville announced hefty increases in industrial gas and electricity rates to reduce the public utility losses the government must subsidize. Several days later it was announced that, on second thought, the state gas monopoly was paying

its own way and no rate increases were needed.

As part of its package to reduce home consumption and stimulate exports, the government announced a 6 per cent increase in automobile prices in November. The next day it said the price rises would only apply January 1. The result: a rush to buy new cars before New Year's defeating the governmental goal of freeing auto-stocks for export.

"Without any polemical intention" said columnist Raymond Aron in the conservative newspaper *Figaro*, "the observer searches in vain for the logic, the coherence or the moving idea behind governmental policy."

Where is Couve de Murville in all this, asked the mass-circulation newspaper *France-Soir*, "Is he sick? Has he lost confidence in himself?" Speaking to an audience of businessmen last week, he twice referred to himself as being prime minister "provisionally."

In any case, the Gaullist faithful are disillusioned by him and seem to consider France's political problems too pressing to await completion of his political apprenticeship. The danger for Gen. de Gaulle is that disenchantment with his prime minister is an indirect challenge to the general's own judgment. He chose Couve de Murville over the protests of the Gaullist majority fresh from their electoral triumph under Prime Minister George Pompidou's tactical command.

Yet every press article against Couve de Murville only makes it likelier that the stubborn president will keep his prime minister; just as every article proclaiming that he would be forced to devalue the franc made it less likely.

(Continued on page 4)

Daily decision-making

Dean Rusk after 8 years in office

As he nears the end of eight long years in office, U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk is tending to view the matters with which he has been so deeply concerned to view broader context than has sometimes been possible under the pressures of daily decision-making. In doing so, he does not hesitate to raise basic questions about the premises upon which he has been operating.

In a recent speech, for example, Rusk suggested that the United States and other Western nations may be "in the opening stages of a great debate on the subject of how to organize a durable peace." Then he went on to say: "If the idea of collective security is not a satisfactory answer, by all means let us find a better one."

For his own part, the Secretary makes it clear that he is still deeply convinced that "the idea of collective security" is fundamentally sound. If there has been a single theme underlying almost everything he has done during the past eight years, it has been the need to "organize peace." In that undertaking, he has argued endlessly that what he calls "the integrity of the American commitment" is indispensable.

Particularly in dealing with "the more than 40 allies with whom we are mutually pledged to resist aggression," as he has put it, "if it should be discovered that the pledge of the United States is meaningless, the structure of peace would crumble and we would be well on our

way to a terrible catastrophe."

The tenacity with which Rusk has upheld this position, especially in defending the Johnson administration's policies in Vietnam, has been a favorite target for his critics. Yet, as he prepares to lay down his power and responsibilities and to move toward the more detached and skeptical attitudes appropriate to an observer, it becomes clear that his approach has not been merely stubborn and dogmatic. It has been a matter of necessity for a man charged with making the hard decisions day by day.

A leader in such a position cannot always afford the kind of open-mindedness that has been described as leaving the mind open at "both ends, so that it retains no convictions upon which action can be based. But if there is to be the "great debate" that he envisions, Rusk as a private citizen now is quite prepared to welcome it and to participate in it. And it will not be surprising if he does so with a freedom of expression and a flexibility of mind that a man in office cannot always display in public.

It may be, for example, that Rusk will be able to develop some of the views he has touched upon concerning "regionalism" within the concept of collective security—an approach, incidentally, in which President-elect Nixon's White House adviser on foreign policy, Dr. Henry Kissinger, has also expressed an interest.

During his term in office, the Se-

cretary of State has frequently had occasion to say that the American effort to organize peace "does not mean that we are the world's policemen... that we aspire to a pax Americana." But in those assertions, there has sometimes seemed to be an implicit recognition of the doubts of those who think the United States has been trying to do too much, by itself, in the name of an abstract and universal concept of collective security. If "regionalism" may offer a better answer, Rusk could well be in the forefront of those seeking it.

In any event, the need to reformulate public opinion on these matters seems apparent. As Rusk has observed, "the theory and practice of collective security represent the lessons we drew from world war two and the events which led up to it." But when he has stated the case for organizing peace on college campuses, he adds, he has often been started to realize that most of his audience was not even born when the nation went through that experience.

There is a danger that this situation may lead to a "new isolationism" in Rusk's view, and that is the one alternative the outgoing secretary of state will surely continue to argue against in the forthcoming debate. As he puts it: "We must find better answers, and not worse ones. For this time the survival of the human race may be literally at stake."

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Extension 59

Bagrami Textile Co. ready for run

By A Staff Writer

One of the four textile mills envisaged in the Third Five Year Development Plan, will go into trial production next March.

The Bagrami Textile Factory, located a few kilometres east of Kabul, near the Golf Club, will produce 12 million metres of cotton material. It will also manufacture thread for sale, said Eng. Mohammad Hashim Tawfiqi, the president of the Bagrami project.

The Bagrami textile mill is being built with credit of the People's Republic of China. The foundation stone of the factory was laid 18 months ago and it is expected that the construction work and the installation of the machines will be finished before the scheduled time. The estimated time for the completion was originally 3 years.

About 1,500 workers, under the supervision of between 80 and 85 Chinese experts, are working to get the factory ready for production.

The Bagrami textile mill will produce plain and eight printed designs of cotton cloth, said Eng. Tawfiqi.

At the present, about 200 Afghans technicians are working closely with Chinese experts and Eng. Tawfiqi hopes by the time the factory begins its six month to one year trial production period, there will be 1,500 employees working in two shifts.

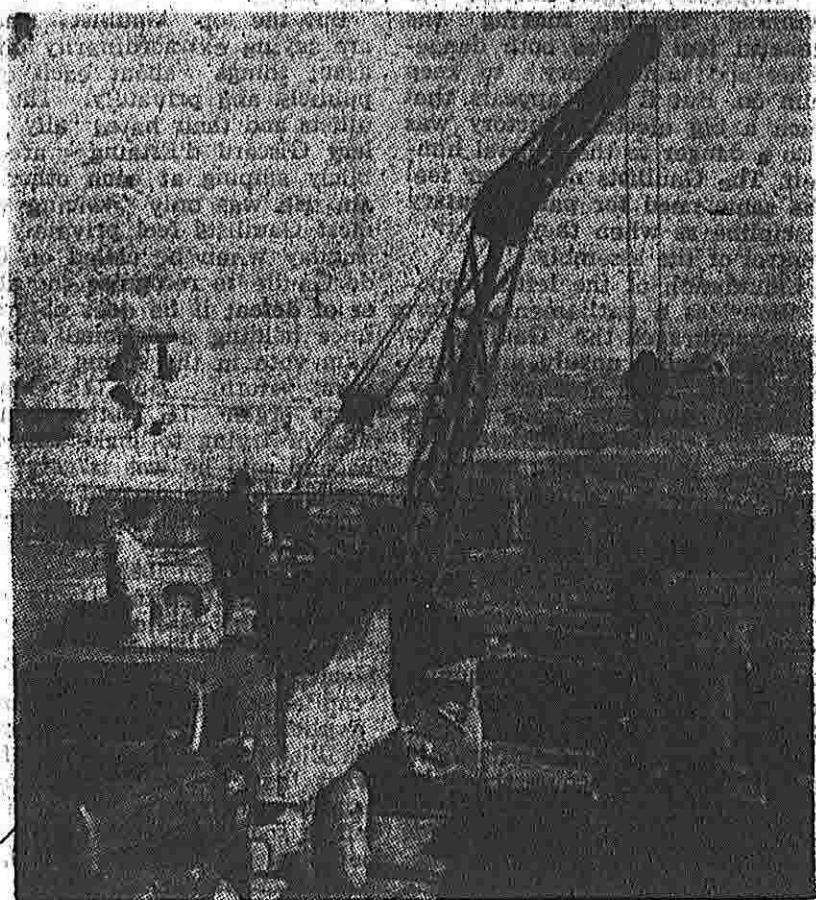
In assessing the economic feasibility of the Bagrami factory, Eng. Tawfiqi said that it will provide productive employment opportunity for a good number of people including women who will do the light work.

Eng. Tawfiqi said that Afghanistan needs another four textiles mills, including Bagrami before the country's textile needs 10 metres per person are met. At present the country needs to produce 40 million metres.

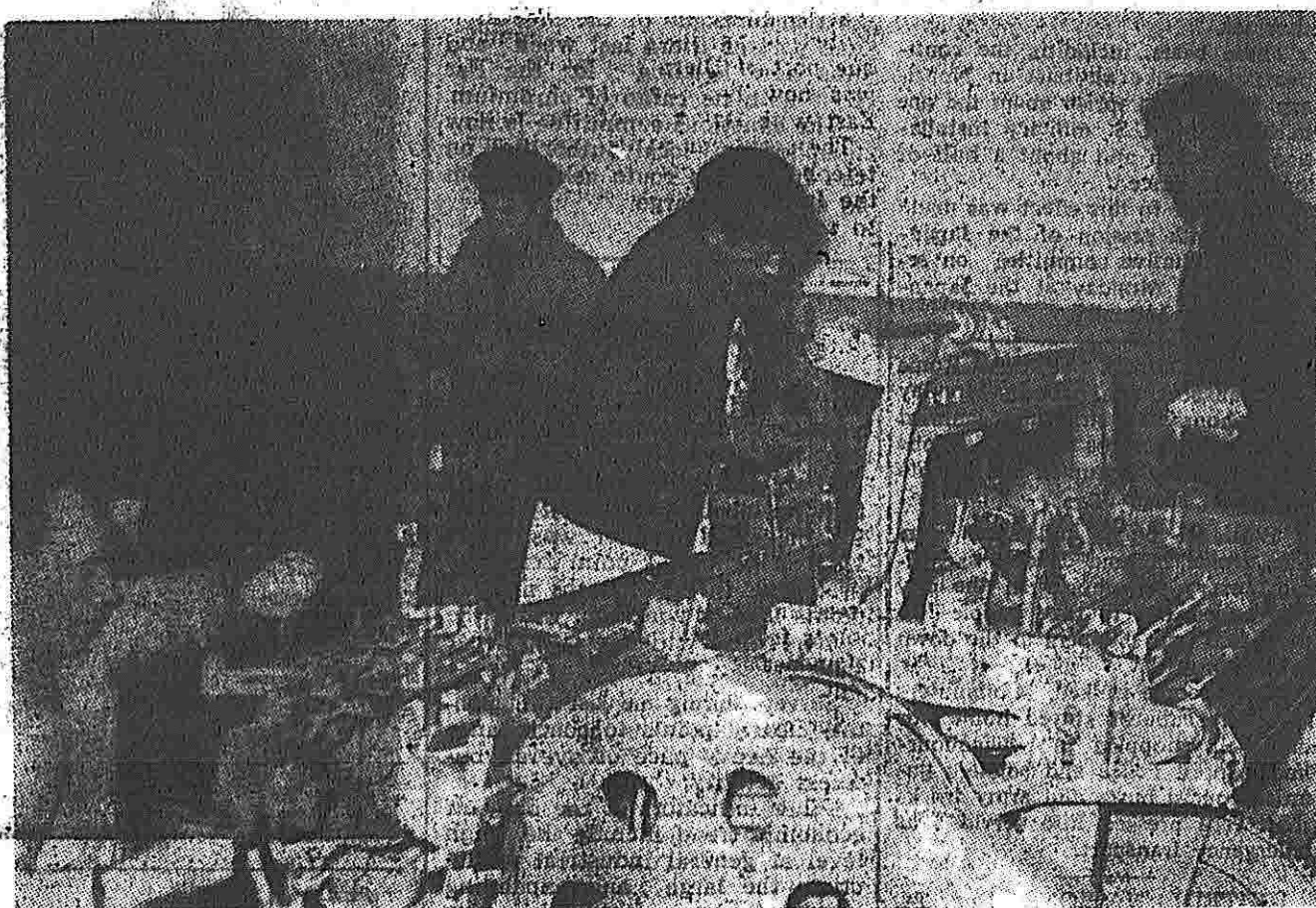
Three other textile mills are planned for Balkh, Kandahar and Herat.

Weaving machines and other machinery for the Bagrami mill are already here and are about to be installed. The factory will have a central heating system and water reservoir.

Since a number of women will be employed by the factory Eng. Tawfiqi said that a kindergarten is being planned for children. There will also be a canteen where 400 people can have lunch at the same time.



Crane of machinery being moved inside the mill.



Technicians busy assembling weaving machines in one of the halls of the Bagrami Textile Mills.

Fears of tight money affects U.S. exchange

NEW YORK, Dec. 24, (AP).—The stock market closed sharply lower Monday under the influence of yered profit taking and fears of tight money.

The market was lower from the start and widened its losses as the session wore on. Trading was active, and some big blocks were traded.

In the final half hour, the loss of the Dow Jones industrial average was approaching the July 22 loss of 18.60, which was the worst decline in a year and a half.

Down sharply were such stocks as Ibm, Xerox, Ina Corp, Coty Investing and Sperry Rand. Amerada made a big gain as it resisted the downtrend.

Part of the reason for the decline, brokers said, was the fact that Monday was the last day on which stocks could be sold on a regular five-day delivery basis so that the profits could be recorded until the end of the year.

Worry about high interest rates, inflation and the "money crunch" also were cited as reasons for caution.

Free Exchange Rates At D'Afghanistan Bank

KABUL, Dec. 24.—Following are the exchange rates at the Da Afghanistan Bank expressed per unit in Afghani of foreign currency today December 24.

Buying		Selling	
Af. 72.25	(per U.S. dollars)	Af. 72.75	
Af. 173.40	(per pound sterling)	Af. 174.60	
Af. 1806.25	(per hundred DM)	Af. 1816.15	
Af. 1682.18	(per hundred Swiss franc)	Af. 1643.84	
Af. 1462.55	(per hundred France franc)	1472.63	

Signs of excessive inflation abound in U.S.

By Thomas E. Mullane

Signs of expressive inflation abound everywhere and yet Washington seems to have been paying little attention to the growing peril.

Added to that domestic worry was the weekend revival of uneasiness in European currency markets. The British pound came under pressure again and there was a renewal of speculation over revaluation of the German mark.

Meanwhile, domestic prices and wages continued their relentless advance. Interest rates are still rising toward crisis levels. And there is scant evidence that the strong pace of government, business and consumer spending which has fueled the surge of the American economy to new heights, is losing any of its thrust.

Warning about the inflation danger are spilling out of economic quarters almost daily. Two of the most emphatic were sounded last week by Arthur F. Burns, an economic consultant to President-elect Nixon, and by Henry Kaufman, of Salomon Brothers and Hutzler.

Unless it is checked, said Burns, "an economic bust in our country may become unavoidable."

If the fight against inflation isn't vigorously pursued by the new administration, Kaufman stressed, "interest rates will rise above their current high levels, the financing of socially desirable programmes will be virtually impossible, our balance of payments will deteriorate and government intervention in the private sector (of the economy) will increase."

Obviously, the ball is now in the court of the Federal Reserve. The only place where inflationary expectations simmered down during the week was the stock market—and that might have been merely temporary. After its averages pushed to new heights a week before, the market backtracked slightly under profit-taking.

The losses were modest, how-

ever, and were centered in the still not imminent. Most startling last week was Tuesday's release from syndicate price restrictions of the Florida Power and Light issue, when underwriters saw it quickly trading at a price to yield 7.05 per cent, a record for a double-A rated bond with protection against early refunding.

Issues that were put off until rates ease included \$28.5 million of Philadelphia bonds, \$33 million of the Florida Development Commission and \$22.8 million of DeKalb County, Ga.

About the middle of the week, however, a ray of sunshine finally penetrated the bond market: the price slide was arrested and some lost ground was regained.

Traders attributed the improvement to the weakness developing in the stock market, the appointment of Paul W. McCracken as chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers in the Nixon administration, and opportunities to invest funds at record bond yields.

The contention that excessive inflation and economic growth are the most serious U.S. problems is backed by recent statistical data. Most dramatic was the October report in both consumer and wholesale prices, indicating a general rise of about 4.5 per cent in prices for 1968, against 3 per cent last year.

Another startling indicator of exuberance in the economy was the government report that its annual survey of business capital spending plans tabulated a projected 6 per cent gain in these outlays for the first half of 1969. It implied a rise of 10 per cent for the year.

That expectation, much higher than the 5 to 8 per cent increases forecast by private surveys, (Continued on page 4)

Business Review Of The Week

By A Staff Writer

people of the nourishment value of fish. Ways of preparing fish must also be shown to the people through radio programmes and newspaper articles. People mostly fry fish and that is all.

There is also need to bring down the price of fish on the market. Fish is now sold Af. 10 per pound. As the people presently prefer meat they prefer to pay a few afghanis more and buy meat rather than fish.

Marketing of the fish in its present form is in no way to encourage consumption of fish. It takes a long time to bring the fish from the rivers to Kabul and other centres where it is kept in buckets of water until it is sold. Often it is cooked and sold when it is no longer fit to be eaten.

It would not take much more expenditures to remedy the situation. The Kabul slaughter house has built a number of modern shops around

the city with great expenditure. These shops remain unused for a great part of the year. They are used only for two or three months a few years a day during the winter when the slaughter house offers meat to the public.

It may be difficult for the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation to take the job of selling the fish. It raises. It could, however, have people sell it on commission who would be required to provide cold storage facilities and sell their fish at the slaughter house shops.

This would only be, however, a beginning. Such shops are only available in Kabul. Headway must be made in popularising fish in the entire nation if an economic impact is expected from it.

If the average villager is made aware of the advantages of eating more fish he can catch his own fish. Fishing hitherto has been the domain of careless sportsmen who have used bombs.

Chronic surplus plagues FRG

Success is at last beginning to catch up with the West Germans. No matter how much various West German officials protest—and they have been doing a great deal lately—that the Deutschmark will not alter its exchange parity, it is only a matter of time before revaluation occurs. It is the penalty of being too good at exporting.

It is also the penalty of having consumers who are bent on saving a large chunk of their disposable income. Instead of spending their hard-earned Deutschmarks, the average West German likes to put at least 11 per cent in the bank, and if he must spend the rest, then it tends to be on things made in West Germany rather than abroad. And, of course, if a country persists in selling to other countries more than it buys from them, these other countries run more and more into debt.

The result is that West Germany has a chronic surplus in its balance of payments on current account. FRG officials are becoming so embarrassed by it that they have termed the surpluses "import deficits" in the hope that this makes things sound less rosy. Nobody is fooled, especially countries like Britain which find they are able to sell the West Germans much less than they are buying.

As foreign currency has poured into the West German coffers, so the protests from abroad have increased. In the first five months of

1968, imports into West Germany rose by 16.9 per cent on a year earlier, but exports rose by 11.3 per cent. So although things have improved, the total surplus for 1968 is expected to be DM 14,000 millions. This compares with the all-time high in 1967 of 17,000 millions.

The West Germans have tried to help by various measures. One way has been to promote West German investment abroad. Instead of retaining the foreign exchange received from their export efforts the West Germans have been shipping it out again. Thus, in the first quarter of 1968 investment abroad was \$450 millions, compared with \$526 millions for the whole of 1967.

But this hasn't been enough. On all sides the West Germans have been urged to spend more abroad and to allow their own economy to grow at a faster rate. If the FRG economy were allowed to grow faster, it is argued, then West Germany would spend more on imports and the excessive surpluses would sink to a more reasonable level.

But, one thing which the West Germans are strongly set against is any speeding up in the economy which might lead to inflation. Perhaps one thing that haunts the West Germans is the memory of the ghastly inflation of 1923 when they needed a barrow-load of paper money to buy half-a-pound of butter and a cup of coffee cost 500,000 million marks. In the last year, for example, the cost-of-living index has risen by only 1.5 per cent, reflecting the determination to keep prices stable.

Meanwhile, abroad prices continue to rise inexorably. So even when West Germany finally gives in and up-values its currency, the effects will not last for long. For a short while German exports will become more expensive to the rest of the world, and it will be easier to sell to West Germany. But, as the German exporters themselves argue, with the rate of rise in prices abroad it would take only four or five years before the effect of re-valuing would wear off.

Also, the FRG's exporters have spent so much time, money and energy building up their markets abroad that they would probably rather cut their profits than risk losing their hold. This is exactly the opposite of what some British exporters did when the pound was devalued. Rather than use the lower prices to sell more, they increased their prices and their profit margins. For some this allowed greater leeway for putting an effort into promoting sales abroad.

When revaluation finally comes, it will be at least five per cent and probably nearer 10 per cent. In 1961, when the D-Mark was last revalued, upwards, the five per cent change led to further, not less speculation. Last week over \$2,000 million flowed into Germany in anticipation of a change in the D-Mark's parity.

The West Germans would rather wait regarding a revaluation until early next year. By then the new American President will have made his views more clear. Also a group of leading FRG economic research institutes have already come to the conclusion that the country's boom will reach its culminating point in the second half of next year. But speculators will wait for no one, and the pressure is growing for a change in the D-Mark's parity.

This is the converse of the pressure on the franc. Part of the franc's troubles are caused by the D-Mark's success. As speculators see how well the Germans are doing they are anticipating an alteration in parity. Many are therefore selling francs and buying D-Marks. Nothing the French Government can say or do looks like having much effect for the moment.

For a while the franc could be saved from devaluation—if the West Germans agreed to revalue. This looks like the tactics being employed by the French in refusing a loan. They are hoping that West Germany will concede the position and accept a revaluation.

But fundamentally, the parity of world currencies is in need of readjustment. The crisis of last March, the brink of monetary chaos, showed the situation really is. The bankers and the finance men are looking around for ways of stabilising things.

One of the ways proposed, for instance, has been to eliminate the use of gold altogether and introduce an international form of currency, being valued against gold, they would be valued against an international paper standard. This could be more easily controlled than gold but may not obtain everyone's confidence. In this case, it would be useless—which is why, for the moment, gold remains the standard against which foreign currencies are judged. (OFNS)

IMF approves stand-by credit for Paraguay

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24, (DPA).—The International Monetary Fund has approved a stand-by arrangement for the government of Paraguay authorising purchases of foreign exchange up to the equivalent of \$7.5 million during 1969.

The arrangement is in support of a programme by the national authorities to maintain financial stability.

Paraguay's economic performance improved in 1967 and 1968 in response to a marked increase in public investment, particularly in roads and power.

While the cost of living has remained virtually stable and wage increases have been moderate, the public finances and balance of payments have been under strain.

The financial programme for 1969 is designed to keep the payments deficit within tolerable limits by improving the public finances.

New tax measures, the application of restraints on expenditure, and the establishment of limits on the external debt operations of the public sector are major features of the programme.

Paraguay's quota in the fund is \$15 million and it has not outstanding purchases. The members last purchases from the fund was in 1960.

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BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

Polytechnic

(Continued from page 1)
529 square metres and several games can be played there at the same time. The auditorium has a rotating stage. The auditorium holds 900 audience.
The kitchen, food storage, and dining room are located in a rotunda. There are cold storage and modern kitchen facilities.
Student dormitories are located in five four storey buildings. Each building has 60 rooms with adequate space for 240 students. The entire dormitory capacity is 1200. Another 300 students live off campus.
There is a basic health centre also included in the project. All buildings are built to withstand earthquakes. The polytechnic was built with credit and technical assistance from the Soviet Union.

Airlines

WEDNESDAY

Ariana Afghan Airlines:
Beirut-Tehran-Kabul
Arrival 1045
Kandahar-Kabul
Arrival-1100
Khost-Kabul
Arrival 1400
Maimana-Mazar-Kabul
Arrival-1610
Kabul, Mazar, Maimana
Departure 0900
Kabul, Khost
Departure 1130
Kabul-Kandahar
Departure 1300

Bakhtar Afghan Airlines:
Nimroz, Bost, Kandahar, Kabul
Arrival 1645
Kabul, Kandahar, Bost, Nimroz
Departure 0800
AEROFLOT:
Moscow, Tashkent, Kabul
Arrival 0925

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Jahed Temorshahi Watt
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Pashtoonistan Jade Shahi
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Airport —21283—20872
Fire Department 13
Telephone repair 29
Main post office 24981

Weather

Yesterday the warmest areas were Kandahar, Jalalabad and Fraz with a high of 16 C, 61 F. The coldest area was Lal with a low of -30 C, -22 F with cloudy skies. Yesterday Shahrak had 29 cm snow, North Salang 4 mm rain, 137 cm snow, South Salang 145 cm, Lal 37 cm, Bamian 15 cm, Chakhcharan 19 cm, and Kunduz 8 mm, 10 cm.

Today's temperature in Kabul at 11:30 a.m. was 2 C, 36 F with clear skies. Wind speed was recorded in Kabul at 18 to 12 knots. Yesterday's temperatures:

Kabul	4 C —3 C
Herat	39 F 26 F
Kunduz	8 C 1 C
Laghman	46 F 34 F
Shahrak	6 C —5 C
North Salang	43 F 23 F
Moqur	14 C 4 C
Gardez	57 F 39 F
Chakhcharan	-4 C —19 F
	25 F —19 F
	-8 C —17 C
	17 F 14 F
	-3 C —11 C
	26 F 12 F
	0 C —18 C
	32 F 0 F
	-5 C —28 C
	23 F —19 F

AT THE CINEMA

ARIANA CINEMA:
At 1, 4, 7 and 10 p.m. American colour cinemascope film dubbed in Farsi **RAIN TREE COUNTRY** with Liz Taylor and Montgomery Clift. Sunday at 7 p.m. in English.

PARK CINEMA:
At 2, 4, 7 and 9 p.m. Iranian film **THREE INSANES** with Gosh.

Home briefs

KABUL, Dec. 24, (Bakhtar).—Over 300 children visit the information and culture ministry's youth clubs daily.
The clubs are run by the Library Department of the ministry. Programmes at the club include music, sports, story hours, discussions, lectures, said Monammad Eoranim Kawaakhoje, president of the youth club department.
Collections of books of interest to youth and children are also at the disposal of the club, in special reading rooms, he said. A variety of games are also available for visitors.

KANDAHAR, Dec. 24, (Bakhtar).—Five kilograms of opium were confiscated at Kandahar airport last Saturday. The opium was being taken abroad by an FRO tourist.

Apollo-8

(Continued from page 1)

The author writes that such a system of control and also preliminary testing of the entire programme through launching automatic stations before undertaking manned flights ensure greater safety.

It should be hoped, academician retro writes, that tests of the systems of the Apollo 8 spaceship on an orbit near the earth, and experiments in bringing craft into the earth's atmosphere with the speed of about eleven kilometres a second were thorough and that the flight is a success.

The flight will yield interesting data about the possibility of the man's life and work in so unusual and difficult conditions. The Soviet scientist writes that some British and U.S. papers published articles and interviews with prominent scientists and politicians who expressed fears about the outcome of the flight.

Some papers pointed to a number of dangers because the systems and units of the spaceship might be not very reliable and because the astronauts could receive a great amount of radiation.

These fears have some ground he says. It should be noted that the flight of the Apollo 8 takes place at a time of high solar activity.

As to reliability and the degree of perfection of the spaceship's system, this can be judged only by specialists who have built these systems, the scientist said.

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Delhi will deal

firmly with

Naga tribesman

NEW DELHI, Dec. 24, (Reuter).—An Indian minister yesterday assured parliament that the government was determined to deal firmly and effectively with breaches of law and order by the independence-seeking tribesmen of Nagaland.

The Nagas, campaigning with foreign aid for independence from Indian rule, "will not be permitted to carry out anti-social and anti-national activities under the cover of the agreement on suspension of operations," Bali Ram Bhagat minister of state for external affairs, told questioners.

Bhagat said some are of Chinese origin were captured earlier this month in a raid on a Naga camp Mozema, 10 kms. from the Nagaland state capital of Kohima.

He refused to disclose details of the captured weapons, but added that generally they were small arms.

World News In Brief

TOKYO, Dec. 24, (DPA).—The U.S. Monday informed Japan of its intention to return 41 military installations here to the Japanese authorities.

These bases, including the controversial Itazuke air base in Northern Kyushu, comprise about the one third of the U.S. military installations in Japan and about a half of their total space.

The notice to this effect was made at the ninth session of the Japan-U.S. consultative committee on security, held Monday at the Japanese Foreign Ministry.

ROME, Dec. 24, (AP).—All Rome city transport was halted Monday for 24 hours in a strike that jammed traffic, got workers to their jobs late and badly disrupted last minute Christmas shopping.

With all buses and street cars idle, traffic became chaotic as almost every private car in the city was rolled out to take people to their jobs and shoppers to the downtown stores.

Many people walked. Commuters from the suburbs stayed home or did their shopping in neighbourhood stores. Police and soldiers guarded tourist buses and army trucks that were pressed into service as emergency transport.

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 24, (AFP).—The United Nations Rhodesian sanctions committee is hunting down a freighter in an effort to prevent a cargo of chromium, believed to be from Rhodesia, reaching Hong Kong and Japan, it was reported yesterday. Britain's representative to the

Little people buy more Napoleons

(Continued from page 2)

Pompidou's biggest mistake was winning too big, making the general feel it was both dangerous and unnecessary to keep him on. But it now appears that such a big electoral victory was also a danger to the general himself. The Gaullists no longer feel the same need for parliamentary discipline as when they had the control of the assembly.

Liquidation of the leftist opposition as a parliamentary force only encouraged the Gaullists to act like their unruly ancestors, the Gauls. Total absence of any coherent opposition stand during the crisis of the franc seems to indicate that the left has been destroyed as a counterweight to the government in the country at large with all overtones of a struggle for position after the general leaves. As Education Minister Ed-

Few Gaullists seemed overly concerned when a by-election last Sunday gave a Communist candidate 48 per cent in June and 38 per cent a year before.

It would suit the Gaullists if the Communists become the only effective opposition, a not unlikely event. The non-Communist Federation of the Left seems unable

to transform itself into a fulfilled party.

But the top Gaullist leaders are saying extraordinarily unpleasant things about each other publicly and privately. The Gaullists and their hated "ally", Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, are publicly sniping at each other again. He was only voicing what most Gaullists feel privately last Sunday when he called on Gen. de Gaulle to recognise the danger of defeat if he does not renounce holding a national referendum vote in the spring on regional reform. But the Gaullist party organ *La Nation* accused him of trying to shake confidence and said he was largely responsible for the current economic troubles because, a finance minister, he put the brakes on expansion back in 1963.

Left-wing Gaullist David Rousset told the assembly last week that Gen. de Gaulle told him even before the May crisis that "capitalism must be condemned explicitly." The conservative Gaullists are still smarting from what they see as an attempt to establish the purity of Gaullism's leftist social doctrine at the expense of the business confidence

they are working to restore.

It is not yet serious, but there is already open talk of fascism as a way out.

A great deal was made last weekend of the wave of plastic bomb blasts against banks and businesses in Paris. The publicity surrounding the subsequent police measures seemed to bear a reminder by the government to its middle-class voters of the fear of anarchy they had in May. But the explosions were soon forgotten as the Gaullists themselves continued to voice reproaches at the government.

As Giscard d'Estaing said in May, "the party of fear" can be victorious, but it is fickle and nothing lasting can be built by it once the fear has subsided.

The government has at least one strong consolation: The cold weather is upon France, and almost no Frenchman will long stand for unrest if it raises the threat of his going without heat. There is no instance in recent French history of a crisis de regime in the dead of winter. But if winter comes can spring be far behind?



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U.S. Economy

(Continued from page 3)

rose \$ 2.2 billion to an annual rate of \$ 88.3 billion.

The Labour Department report that its labour productivity index for the third quarter was up to 138.3, a gain of 1 point from the preceding three months and 4.3 points from a year ago, while the compensation index was up 7 per cent.

Surveys during the last two months, clearly points to continuance of the heavy pace of overall business activity.

Other indicators of the buoyant economic trend include the high level of general industrial production; the large and expanding volume of manufacturers' new orders; the gains still being achieved in automotive and other retail sales; the lofty level of consumer spending and debt programmes, and the still rising volume of government spending at all levels.

Major financial, business and economic developments of the week included:

Reports of an agreement between President-elect Nixon and Rep. Wilbur D. Mills, D., Ark., on an approach toward fiscal policy, with Nixon moderating his pre-election stand on ending the surtax and Rep. Mills taking a more favourable view toward tax incentives for business.

The 5 per cent jump in steel production a week ago, lifting the year's output so far to 120.4 million tons, against 115.5 million in the similar part of 1967.

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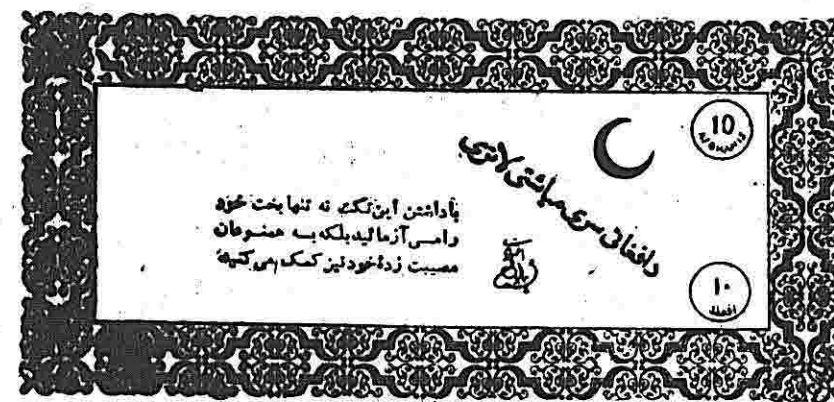
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In the garden of the Community Christian Church one hundred yards off the Darulaman Road west of the entrance to the Soviet embassy Sunday, Monday and Tuesday evening, December 22, 23 and 24. At 7:30 p.m. sharp.

Please wear warm clothing. The presentation lasts 25 Minutes.